

EXPRESS MAIL NO: EL852691555US **PATENT** TROP CENTED TOO SOO

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

5 **Applicants** Christoph Reinhard, Anne B. Jefferson, Jill A. Winter, and

Filippo Randazzo

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For

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COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR TREATING

NEOPLASTIC DISEASE USING NET-4 MODULATORS

Examiner

Sean R. McGarry

Art Unit

1635

Docket No.

PP-01701.002/59516-149

Date

June 20, 2003

15 Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AFFIDAVIT OF DR. A. B. JEFFERSON UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

(IN SUPPORT OF RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.112)

Sir:

I, Dr. A. B. Jefferson, being duly sworn, say:

- I am a true and original inventor of the claimed subject matter of the above-1. identified patent application.
 - 2. I am an internationally recognized scientist and am presently employed as Principal Scientis at Chiron Corporation, Emeryville, California (from 1996 to present). I received a Bachelors Degree in Biology from University of Richmond and a Ph.D. degree from Stanford University in Pharmcology.
- I am an author or co-author of 19 peer-reviewed research articles and have been invited to give numerous presentations on my research at national and international meetings. My curriculum vitae is attached as Exhibit 1.
 - 4. In my capacity as Principal Scientist, I am familiar with methods of inhibiting cell growth and of evaluating the biological effects of antisense oligonucleotides, antibodies, and

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other mechanisms of inhibiting cell growth, such as cancer cell growth, including methods well-known to those of ordinary skill in the art at the time of filing of the above-identified patent application.

- 5. I understand that claims of the above-referenced patent application are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101, based on alleged lack of patentable utility, and also under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, on the grounds that one skilled in the art would not know how to use the claimed invention, because the claimed invention is allegedly not supported by a patentable utility. I generally understand that patentable utility refers to either a well documented utility, or a specific, substantial, and real world utility.
- 10 6. The application as filed shows that inhibition of NET-4 with antisense oligonucleotides specific for NET-4 inhibits the growth of colon cancer cells. These data are disclosed in Example 2 at pages 33-35, and Example 4 at pages 39-40. The specification also discloses that the expression level of NET-4 in colon tumor cells is at least 2-fold greater than that of matched normal colon cells, as described in Example 5 at pages 40-43. In addition, the in situ hybridization studies of NET-4 expression in normal colon and lung tissues, as compared with colon tumor and lung tumor tissues, indicate increased expression in the tumor tissues (see Example 6 at page 43, and Figure 2).
 - 7. Information available in the scientific literature that I have reviewed indicates that inhibition using antisense correlates with inhibition of the same protein using antibodies. These proteins are discussed below
 - 8. **CD44.** Naor *et al.* reported the inhibition of CD44 expression in tumor cells. CD44 was targeted using *antibodies* and *antisense oligonucleotides*, and the targeting resulted in reduction of the malignant activities of the tumor cells. (Naor *et al.*, *Crit Rev. Clin Lab.*, 39:527-579, 2002.) For example, at page 554, Naor describes studies in which treatment of animals with anti-CD44 antibodies suppressed a variety of malignant activities. At page 555, Naor states, "[d]ownregulation of tumor-supporting CD44 by specific antisense transfection *is an alternative way of proving that CD44 (especially CD44v) targeting is a rational approach to cancer therapy.*" (Emphasis added.) Although the results were, in part, specific to the biological role of CD44, the overall finding was a reduction in tumor spread.

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- 9. **EGFR.** Pomerantz *et al.* reported that blocking of epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) with monoclonal antibodies, and with antisense oligonucleotides, is being investigated for anti-cancer therapy, in view of the upregulation of EGFR in many types of human tumors. (Pomerantz *et al.*, *Curr. Oncol. Rep.* 5:140-146, 2003.) Pomerantz reported that antisense oligodeoxynucleotides targeting the translation start sites of EGFR inhibited the proliferation of head and neck squamous carcinoma cells (HNSCC). In other studies, antisense constructs directed against EGFR inhibited tumor growth when administered intratumerally to HNSCC xenografts in nude mice. These authors also reported that monoclonal antibodies specific for EGFR inhibited the growth of HNSCC cell lines, and these studies led to human studies of anti-EGFR antibody therapy of HNSCC.
- 10. **VEGF.** Another protein family that is important in normal and tumor cell growth, vascular endothelial growth factor, or VEGF, contains as a member VEGF-C, which is implicated in malignant mesothelioma growth. Masood *et al.* found that antisense oligonucleotide complementary to VEGF inhibited VEGF expression and also specifically inhibited mesothelioma cell growth. Antibodies to VEGF receptor also inhibited mesothelioma cell growth. Although in this case the antibodies and antisense were directed to different proteins, the two proteins are functionally related (protein and its receptor), indicating that the ultimate effect was to prevent the protein from carrying out its normal biological role. (Masood *et al.*, *Int. J. Cancer* 104:603-610, 2003.)
- 11. **IGF.** Stearns *et al.* reported that inhibition of insulin-like growth factor (IGF) receptor using antisense specific for IGF receptor polynucleotides, and using IGF receptor-specific antibodies, had similar effects on the ability of IL-10 to block IGF activation of mRNA expression and protein synthesis in cancer cells. (Stearns *et al.*, *Clin. Cancer Res.* 9:1191-1199, 2003.)
- 25 12. It is therefore my opinion that there is a correlation between inhibition of protein expression using specific antisense oligonucleotides, and inhibition of the same protein using specific antibodies.
 - 13. I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like

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so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

State of California

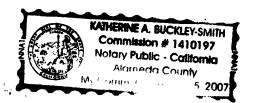
A. B. Jefferson

A. B. Jefferson

To me known and known and known to me to be the person of that name, who signed and sealed the foregoing instrument, and state of the california of the califo

KATHERNE A. BUCKLEY-SMITH
Commission # 1410197
Notary Public - California
Alameda County
My Comm. Expires May 5, 2007

Commission expires <u>may 5, 2007</u>



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Date of Birth: January 18, 1961 Place of Birth: Farmville, Virginia

Education:

1983 B. S. Biology (honors), University of Richmond, Virginia B. A. History, University of Richmond, Virginia

1990 Ph. D. Stanford University School of Medicine, Department of Pharmacology (Advisor: Howard Schulman)

Professional Positions:

1989-1992 Postdoctoral Fellow, Division of Hematology, Washington University School of Medicine (Advisor: Philip W. Majerus)

1992-1996 Research Associate, Division of Hematology, Washington University School of Medicine

1996-1999 Scientist I, Research, Chiron Technologies, Chiron Corporation

1999-2001 Scientist II, Research, Chiron Technologies, Chiron Corporation

2001-present Principal Scientist, Chiron Technologies, Chiron Corporation

Academic and Professional Awards:

Dickinson Undergraduate Research Award, 1982
Pharmaceutical Manufacturer's Association Predoctoral Fellowship, 1987-1988
Frances Lou Kallman Award for excellence in science and graduate study
Stanford University, 1989

Invited Lectures:

University of Richmond, Department of Biology, January 1994

Refereed Publications:

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 Multiple forms of an inositol polyphosphate 5-phosphatase form signaling complexes with Shc and Grb2. CURR. BIOL. 6: 438-445.
- Jefferson, A. B. and Majerus, P. W., (1996) Mutation of the conserved domains of two inositol polyphosphate 5-phosphatases. BIOCHEM. 35: 7890-7894.
- Liu, L., Jefferson, A. B., Zhang, X., Norris, F. A., Majerus, P. W., and Krystal, G. (1996) A novel phosphatidylinositol 3,4,5 trisphosphate 5-phosphatase associates with the interleukin-3 receptor. J. BIOL. CHEM. 271: 29729-29733.
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